

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 6, 8, 22, 26, 28 and 41-44 are pending in the present application with Claims 2, 6, 22 and 26 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the disclosure was objected to; Claims 6, 8, 26, 28, 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 2, 22, 41 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Sato et al. in view of Nakajima et al. '345 and Iwasa et al.; and Claims 6, 8, 26, 28, 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakajima '763 in view of Nakajima et al. '345 and Iwasa et al.

Regarding the objection to the disclosure, page 25 has been amended as suggested in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this objection be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 6, 8, 26, 28, 42 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claims 2 and 26 have been amended in light of the comments noted in the outstanding Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 22, 41 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Sato et al. in view of Nakajima et al. '345 and Iwasa et al.. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 has been amended to recite that the information recording multibeam light source includes means for holding the semiconductor laser array and the means for collimating. The means for holding includes a through-hole through which the semiconductor laser array is inserted and secured, and includes a flange for securing the means for collimating such that an optical axis of the means for collimating substantially

coincides with a midpoint between the plurality of light emitting points. Independent Claim 22 includes similar features.

In a non-limiting example, Figure 3 illustrates a means for holding 2 including a through-hole 2c through which the semiconductor laser array is inserted and secured, and includes a flange 2b for securing the means for collimating 5 such that an optical axis of the means for collimating 5 substantially coincides with a midpoint between the plurality of light emitting points 1a<sub>1</sub>-1a<sub>4</sub>.

According to the claimed invention, by bringing the optical axis of the collimator lens 5 to approximately the center of a through-hole 2c formed in the interfitting rod portion 2a of the holder 2, the optical axis of the collimator lens 5 is thus adjusted to the center of the light emitting points 1a<sub>1</sub>-1a<sub>4</sub> (i.e., the middle of the points 1a<sub>2</sub> and 1a<sub>3</sub>). See page 10, lines 20-23.

It is respectfully noted Sato et al. in view of Nakajima et al. '345 and Iwasa et al. do not teach or suggest the claimed means for holding including the through-hole and flange as claimed. Rather, Sato et al. merely disclose two light emitting points A and B and collimator lens 2 but does not teach or suggest the holding means including the through-hole and the flange. Similarly, Iwasa et al. and Nakajima et al. '345 also do not teach or suggest these features.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent Claims 2 and 22 and each of the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Claims 6, 8, 26, 28, 42 and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakajima '763 in view of Nakajima et al. '345 and Iwasa et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 6 and 26 include similar features to that as discussed above with respect to independent Claims 2 and 22. The features recited in independent Claims 6 and 26 are shown in a non-limiting example in Figure 8A, for example. As noted above, Nakajima

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et al. '345 and Iwasa et al. do not teach or suggest the claimed holder. Further, it is respectfully submitted Nakajima et al. '763 also does not teach or suggest the claimed holder including the through-hole and flange.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection also be withdrawn.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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